Fire Safety in the Home

Kitchen Safety

- On average, there are **91,700** reported home fires each year associated with cooking equipment, killing 327 people and injuring 4,607.
- Cooking fires are the #1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries.

Kitchen Safety

- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires.
- Three in every 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen – that's more than any other place in the home.

Cooking Safety Advice

- Never leave food cooking unattended
- Keep cooking areas clean and clear of combustibles
- Keep a three-foot (one meter) "kid-free zone" around the stove
- Turn pot handles inward
- Wear short, close fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking
- Never use a wet oven mitt, as it presents a scald danger if the moisture in the mitt is heated

Heating Safety

- On average, there are **59,100** reported home fires per year associated with heating equipment, killing 468 people and injuring 1,592.
- Heating fires are second leading cause of home fires. During the months of December, January, and February, heating is the leading cause of home fires.

Heating Safety

- Most heating fires involve space heaters, not central furnaces.
- Installing space heaters too close to combustibles (or placing combustibles too close to them) are major causes of space heater fires.

Heating Safety Advice

- Space heaters need space, at least three feet (one meter) away from anything that can burn
- Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room or go to sleep
- Have a sturdy screen on your fireplace, a metal screen or built-in glass doors

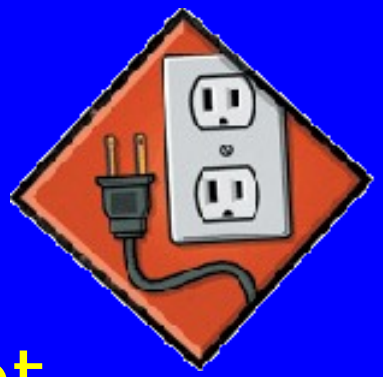
Electrical Safety

- On average there are **38,400** home fires per year associated with wiring, switches, outlets, cords and plugs, fuse and circuit breaker boxes, and other equipment involved in distributing electricity around the home. These electrical service equipment fires annually kill 352 people and injure 1,343 annually.

Electrical Safety

- Fixed wiring causes 1/3 of home electrical distribution fires.
- Cords and plugs cause 1/6 of home electrical distribution fires and 1/3 of related deaths. In many cases, people can easily check and fix them, if necessary, without a licensed electrician.

Electrical Safety



- Each year, electrical shock (not resulting in a fire) causes hundreds of burn deaths and thousands of burn injuries.
- Nearly 2/3 of electrical burn injuries among children ages 12 and under are associated with household electrical cords and extension cords.

Electrical Safety Advice

- Replace or repair any electrical device with a loose or frayed cord
- Avoid running extension cords across doorways or under carpets
- In homes with small children, electrical outlets should have plastic safety covers
- Avoid the use of "cube taps" and other devices that allow the connection of multiple appliances into a single receptacle.
- Place lamps on level surfaces, away from things that can burn.

The Basics

- In the United States and Canada, a home fire is reported to a fire department roughly every 75 seconds, killing 350 people and injuring more than 1,300.
- Eighty percent of all U.S. fire deaths occur in the home.

The Basics

- Someone is killed in a home fire in the United States and Canada roughly every 3 hours.
- Smoke alarms are the most effective early warning device available. Having a smoke alarm in your home cuts your chance of dying in a fire nearly in half!

Safety Advice

- Install at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home and in or near all sleeping areas
- Smoke alarms should be tested once a month and batteries replaced once a year or when the alarm beeps, warning that the battery is low
- Every household should develop and practice a home fire escape plan that includes two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place

Prepare Your Home Evacuation Plan

- Have a written Plan
- Know how to escape
  - Have more than 1
- Where to meet
- Where to call 911 from (Not from inside the house on fire)

QUESTIONS?

- CONTACT FWA GARRISON SAFETY OFFICE AT 353-6473 or 7078
- OR
- FIRE PREVENTION AT 353-9164